

# ERVIN PANEL HOPES TO WIND UP WORK

## But Mansfield Proposes It Should Broaden Inquiry on Watergate Scandal

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 —

The Senate Watergate committee agreed this morning to try to wind up its public hearings by Thanksgiving.

But, this afternoon, Senator Mike Mansfield, the Democratic leader, proposed that the committee broaden its inquiry to include all matters that were under consideration by the special prosecutor's office when Archibald Cox was dismissed by President Nixon 10 days ago.

The special prosecutor has a much wider mandate than the committee. While the committee is now limited to investigating incidents relating to the 1972 Presidential election, the prosecutor has been delving into such matters as the burglary at the office of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist as well as President Nixon's personal finances.

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., the Watergate committee chairman apparently did not know of Senator Mansfield's statement when the committee met in a closed session this morning. After the meeting Mr. Ervin a North Carolina Democrat, said that he did not foresee any expansion of the panel's inquiry.

Senator Mansfield, a Montana Democrat, told the Senate Democratic Conference that, with the Justice Department "in shambles," the Watergate committee as "the only body in the Federal Government that is duly constituted and equipped to continue an independent, impartial inquiry into the Watergate affair and related matters."

### 2 Witnesses Scheduled

The committee decided to hear testimony tomorrow and Thursday from Berl Bernhard, who was campaign manager last year for Senator Edmund S. Muskie, and Clark MacGregor, who succeeded John N. Mitchell as President Nixon's campaign director.

Those two witnesses, one committee staff member said, "were a holding action" until the panel begins its inquiry into campaign finances next week. As part of that investigation, the committee plans to hear testimony on the \$100,000 contribution that Howard R.

Hughes, the reclusive millionaire, reportedly gave to Mr. Nixon's friend C. G. Rebozo.

Senator Ervin and Senator Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee, the committee's ranking Republican, defended the arrangement they had worked out with Mr. Nixon to gain access to certain portions of the White House tape recordings after they had been verified by Senator John C. Stennis.

The arrangement fell apart two weekends ago after Mr. Cox refused to accept it and was dismissed by Mr. Nixon. Senators Ervin and Baker said today that they had never been told that the White House would use their agreement as a means of discharging Mr. Cox.

The two Senators said they hoped that Mr. Nixon would renew his offer to give the committee portions of the tapes. Meanwhile, the committee took another step to try to gain access to the tapes through court action.

The full committee agreed to join with Senator Ervin in sponsoring legislation that would specifically grant the United States District Court here jurisdiction to hear suits brought by Congressional committees in an effort to enforce their subpoenas of executive branch documents.

The court's chief judge, John J. Sirica, dismissed the committee's suit for the tapes on Oct. 17 on the ground that the court lacked jurisdiction in the case.